

CLAPW E-Newsletter

Fall Edition 2018

Message from the Board President, Joe Visconti

The summer and early fall have been very busy, very productive and a lot of fun. Our **AGM** on Wed. September 26th was the culmination of a very busy and fruitful year. The atmosphere was one of **enthusiasm** couched in the overall themes of **renewal** and **change**.

At the AGM, several of our **staff** were recognized for their **wonderful years of service** to our organization. We recognized **Marino Ferrovicchio** for his service on the Board of Directors this past year. Our **revised By-Laws** were passed as was our Audited Financial Statement. The highlight of the evening was the revelation of our **Mission, Vision, Values** statement and **Strategic Priorities** as presented by our guest speaker, **Mr. Rob Wood** (more details on page 2).

The **transformation of ARC** has been going very well under the guidance of **Candice Bridgman** and supported by **Julie Sidler** and her **staff**. The day after our AGM, there was a fabulous **barbeque and open house** at the ARC site. It was a celebration of where we have come thus far. There were approximately **150 people** there who participated and toured the facility the highlight of which is the renovated kitchen. Again, a lot of fun. Of course, the **Halloween dance** was another success, and the ghosts, goblins, and superheroes were out in force.

In this season of Thanksgiving, **we have a lot to be thankful for at CLAPW**. The hard work of our employees, our office staff and the leadership of our managers has contributed to the successes that we have had to date. Looking ahead, I invite all of you to come to our **Christmas Dance on November 30th** at the Ajax Convention Centre (further details on page 3). This will be a great night and, similar to last year, it shouldn't be missed. **On behalf of the Board of Directors, we look forward to serving you in future endeavors.**



The Annual CLAPW Halloween Dance

This year's **Halloween Dance** was a fun-filled event. Check out some of the **great costumes** below!



Here is a snapshot of our **new Mission, Vision, Values, and Strategic Priorities:**



CLAPW is dedicated to supporting people with developmental disabilities so they can **live full lives** and be effectively, safely and **inclusively** supported in their own communities. We serve that mission by offering a broad range of **personalized supports and services**, closely aligned with their **individual goals and choice**.



CLAPW envisions a **society where everyone belongs** — living in a state of **dignity**, sharing meaningfully and safely in all elements of community life, and having **opportunities to participate** effectively. In our future vision, there is genuine **inclusion for all**.



CLAPW's service values:

- A mission defined by a **person-centred focus** and culture of **respect**
- The purposeful pursuit of meaningful **inclusion** for those we support
- Always acting with **honesty, integrity, transparency, and accountability**



CLAPW's strategic priorities and action objectives include:

Studying potential solutions to meet housing needs

- **Assess** emerging needs
- **Evaluate** models & options
- **Recommend** options to be pursued, noting implications

Developing options for community participation

- **Centre to promote social inclusion & participation**
- **Focus on choices and needs of supported people**
- **Expand base of volunteers**

Re-establishing strong relationships with strategic partners

- Identify the key **strategic partnerships** to be pursued
- Develop an action plan to **renew confidence** in CLAPW and re-establish partnerships

Continuing to recovery trust, faith & confidence in CLAPW

- Continue to focus on **quality improvement**
- **Engage**/move forward with **all stakeholders**
- Fully become an **employer of choice**

Inspiring Possibilities

John has always wanted to **fly** in a small plane. This year, he fulfilled that **dream** at the Durham Flight Centre located at the Oshawa Municipal Airport. John flew in a single-engine Cessna and was **thrilled** to see **Durham Region** from his **sky-high view**!



Save the Date for the Upcoming CLAPW Christmas Dinner and Dance



We hope you will join us for the Annual CLAPW **Christmas** party. This year's event will be held on **Friday, November 30th** at the **Ajax Convention Centre**. **Doors open at 6:00 p.m.** and **dinner** will be served at **6:30 pm**. The **dance** starts at **9:00 p.m.** and continues to **1:00 a.m.** Tickets for the dinner and dance are **\$40.00**. Tickets for the dance only (after 9:00 p.m.) are **\$15.00**. You can purchase tickets at our Ajax locations at 36 Emperor Street or 177 Dowty Road. **The deadline to purchase tickets is November 16th.**

Rachel's Vacation and Visit to the Horse Farm

Rachel decided to start her **vacation** with a relaxing pedicure. She chose burgundy toes to match the stripes in her shirt ☺. She was excited to go to a **horse farm** as part of her holiday. At the farm, Rachel had a chance to pat all the horses in the barn, except Mikey because he's grumpy on a good day! Kathy, the farm owner, gave Rachel the full tour. The **two goats** (Gail & Annie) took a shine to Rachel and followed her everywhere she went. Rachel also made **fast friends** with Honey the farm chihuahua, who tagged along with the other animals on the tour. Even the barn cats joined in the stroll. ***It was a great holiday and nice to relax and roam in the country!***



Come Join Us on November 24th at our First Annual Christmas Bazaar



Over 15 tables have been booked by local vendors for our first annual **CLAPW Christmas Bazaar!** Included at the Bazaar will be art projects, crafts, and tasty desserts. All proceeds will be used to purchase supplies for the new activities offered at Dowty Road. Come browse our festive tables and get your Christmas shopping done in one stop!

Date: Saturday, November 24th

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: 177 Dowty Road, Ajax

Click on the link below for more information:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/156696761943085/?ti=as>

Meet our New Volunteer Services Coordinator

Sharon Burgess is a long-time employee of CLAPW and our new **Volunteer Services Coordinator**. Volunteering remains an essential part of our new initiatives, and we are happy to report that **three additional** volunteers will be starting at the Dowty Road site in **October**. One volunteer will be running the newly created **Book Club** on Monday mornings. **Two additional volunteers** will be supporting people in **creating arts and crafts** for the upcoming **Bazaar**. We are very grateful for the donation of a piano and several keyboards for our new **Music Program** and for a **volunteer** who can play and offer instruction to support this initiative. In addition, three Developmental Service Worker (DSW) students will starting placements with CLAPW in October and offering additional support. **Fantastic work, Sharon, and thanks to all CLAPW volunteers** for your **invaluable support!**



Transition of the Sheltered Workshop: Celebrating the Past, Present, and Future



As of the last week of September 2018, participants of the previous sheltered workshop program have **transitioned to new activities and opportunities**. The summer edition of our newsletter highlighted many of the activities that had been started based on the valuable information that was provided by supported people and their families throughout the **person-centred planning** process lead by **Candice Bridgman**. If you missed our last newsletter, you can access it on our website by following this link:

<http://cl-apw.org/news-events>

The recent BBQ hosted at the Dowty Road location was a great success. Approximately **150 participants** attended this fantastic celebration in recognition of the past, present, and future of services offered from the Dowty Road site. Special thanks to **Veridian** for their generous **donation** to support the BBQ rental and tables for the event. Keep reading for more details on the Transition of the Sheltered Workshop on pages 5 and 6.

Transition of the Sheltered Workshop-Continued

Securing **paid employment** at minimum wage for supported people has been an important goal of the **transition process**. Findings from the Person-Centred Planning process noted that **29%** of participants expressed a desire to gain competitive employment. We have been helping people to meet this goal and are very excited by the upcoming interviews with **Gates Wildlife** for six people to obtain **minimum wage, part-time** positions with their organization. We are also happy to report that one person who had been volunteering at **Metro** in the bakery has now transitioned to a paid position. Additionally, two people involved in our Community Employment Program are preparing for interviews at **Tim Horton's** with the goal of obtaining part-time employment. We remain committed to helping people to develop for and achieve employment goals. Thus far, **11%** of transition participants have gained part-time work at minimum wage. We will keep you posted on our combined progress in this vital area.

Person-Centred Plan (PCP) findings showed that **58%** of participants reported a desire to engage in **volunteering**. In response, 12 people began volunteering with the **Salvation Army** and the **Ajax/Whitby Community Garden Project**. Several individuals have started volunteering with the **Ajax Adopt a Park** and are maintaining a section of **Westney Park**. In addition, we continue to work with Habitat for Humanity, Reptilia Zoo, and Feed the Need to develop volunteer opportunities.

PCP findings also showed that **88%** of participants reported interest in a range of **sport and fitness** options. In response, twenty people are now participating in the WindReach Farm Adapted Sports Program. In addition, CLAPW initiated an in-house **Sports Program** which was held weekly at the Ajax waterfront along with hiking options at local Conservation areas. Concurrently, transferrable recreation passes were established with the **Town of Ajax Recreation Department** providing access to three community recreation centres. A successful fundraising campaign was initiated to offset the cost of the passes (**supported by the local Rotary Club**). We also secured a donated **Wii** system for interactive sports, and we are grateful for the assistance of a long-time CLAPW volunteer at the Recreation Centre.



PCP findings showed that **73%** of participants expressed interest in various forms of **arts** including painting, crafts, knitting, drama, music, karaoke, dance, photography, and movies. In response, some people visited the **Livingroom Art Studio** while others investigated our **Drama Program**. We have also become involved with the **Ajax Public Library**, where many participants have started **Art Classes** and are enjoying **movie screenings** at the library. Additionally, a **Music Program** has is in the development stages for interested participants after we successfully secured a **donated piano** and **keyboard** along with a **volunteer** to provide instruction. We were also grateful recipients of a donated **karaoke machine** which is quite popular.

Transition of the Sheltered Workshop-Continued



PCP findings showed that **63%** of participants are interested in **cooking classes** and gaining other **life skills** to help facilitate independent living. In anticipation of this response, the **kitchen** at 177 Dowty Road was renovated. Additionally, CLAPW hosted a Life Essentials Program for Dowty Road participants. Based on the positive response, our staff members are now becoming trained to offer the curriculum. We also purchased a TV and downloaded apps for teaching various Life Skills topics for those who have an interest in this area.

PCP findings showed that **29%** of participants are interested in **computer training**. In response, **summer students** assisted people to increase

their knowledge of computers. Our new partnership with Ajax Public Library will also include computer training.

PCP findings revealed an interest in additional activities including social skills, literacy classes, and a book club. In response, we have partnered with Lakeridge Community Support Services which will be running a 6-week Social Skills class at CLAPW. Additionally, we are hoping to expand our current literacy class to provide capacity for new students. The new Book Club held on Mondays is quite popular.

We would like to extend our **thanks to everyone for their involvement, ideas, and support throughout the transition process!** Stay tuned for more updates in the Winter Edition of the CLAPW E-Newsletter.



Staff Member Service Award Recipients at the 2018 AGM



At our recent AGM, we were pleased to have CLAPW staff members join us to celebrate their years of service (pictured left to right):

Andrea Gould, 10 years of service

Anne Marie Brown, 15 years of service

Ruth James, 20 years of service

Nancy Anthony, 20 years of service

Thank you for your dedication and service!

Prince Shares A Story About His Gardening Job

during the summer of 2018
I have been working at a few of the CLAPW Homes
Completing Garden work such as gardening, weeding,
and Planting Flowers in the Morning. In the
Evening I work at Pitmann home Completing Gardening
Work as a Hobby. So I planted Tomatoes, Sweet pepper
and punkins. Due to the hot weather I have to water
them, Morning and in the Evening. So far the Gardening is
Flourishing and looking Well. I am just waiting to reap
the benefits of my Crops. When I work at the Clapw I feel
proud, because I am getting paid to be working and the
staff Complement me and Appreciate my work. In the
fall I will be working at the head office Raking
leaves and cleaning up @ the Garden and Yard.

Prince Bennett.



Thanks for contributing to the CLAPW Newsletter, Prince!

Our next edition will be available in January 2019